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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/810,583

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EXAMINER

RAY, AMIT K

ART UNIT

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2623

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/810,583

Applicant(s)

ATAD ET AL.

Examiner

Amit K. Ray

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Mehravari, US 20030133413.

Re. Claim 1, Mehravari discloses a user installation for interfacing a television or like device (580) with a video broadcast multi-channel feed signal, the installation comprising:

(a) a connector (519 in Fig.4) for connection to a video broadcast multi-channel feed receiver installation,

(b) a splitter unit (560 in Fig.4) attached to said connector for splitting incoming signals from said connector into a video feed signal (Fig.4, Feed from 560 to 580) and a signal received from a terrestrial network (Fig.4, 560 splits data signal from terrestrial network 132 via satellite), and for directing outgoing signals for said terrestrial network to said connector (Fig.4, 560 sends outgoing signal to connector 519); [0050], lines 4-6, showing two-way, high-speed data service),

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(c) said terrestrial network signal providing a return link to support user interaction from said interfaced device (Fig.4, [0050], lines 1-12).

Re. Claim 2, the user installation of claim 1, wherein said video broadcast multi-channel feed signal comprises a satellite signal (Fig.4, satellite dish 518 receiving broadcast multi-channel feed from satellite relay 517 for users 510).

Re. Claim 3, the user installation of claim 1, wherein said video broadcast multi-channel feed signal comprises a terrestrial signal ([0050], lines 7-10, showing terrestrial signal with video broadcast satellite signal).

Re. Claim 4, the user installation of claim 1, further operable to provide wide area network (WAN) support so that said connected satellite TV installation, when supplied with a terrestrial antenna (Fig.4, terrestrial antenna 620), can serve as a WAN node ([0009], lines 1-15).

Re. Claim 6, the user installation of claim 1, further operable to provide Hotspot support so that said connected satellite TV installation, when supplied with a terrestrial antenna (Fig.4, terrestrial antenna 620), can provide a local hotspot ([0059], lines 4-7, antenna radiating and receiving communications signals to and from the wireless devices 230, thus showing local hotspot)

Re. Claim 7, the user installation of claim 6, wherein said hotspot support substantially fulfils the requirements of IEEE standard 802.11 ([0064], lines 27-32).

Re. Claim 8, the user installation of claim 1, comprising set top box (STB) functionality ([0057], lines 3-5), WAN functionality ([0060], lines 1-7), and splitter combiner functionality ([0053], lines 7-9).

Re. Claim 9, the user installation of claim 1, further comprising a residential gateway (Fig.4, access point 550; [0059], lines 7-9, access point 550 serving as access point or gateway for all wireless communication devices 230) comprising interface functionality for at least one of a LAN ([0004], lines 10-12), an Internet enabled device ([0036], lines 15-19), and a voice over IP enabled device.

Claim 11, the user installation of claim 8, further comprising hotspot management functionality, is rejected on the same grounds as Claim 6.

Re. Claim 17, the user installation of claim 1, wherein said connector is adapted to use an existing co-ax cable or a twisted pair for sending outgoing signals ([0007], lines 1-28, using existing wire-line infrastructure of high bandwidth coaxial or hybrid fiber-coaxial of TV operators, satellite communication providers, telephone operators, etc).

Re. Claim 18, the user installation of claim 1, wherein said connector is adapted to use Ethernet for sending outgoing signals (Fig.4, splitter 560 i.e. connector is connected to switch 540, which is 240 in Fig.5; [0035], lines 12-14, wireless modem 235 i.e. 555 in Fig.4 providing the information to switch 240 i.e. 540 in Fig.5 via an Ethernet).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5, 10, and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mehravari in view of Reisman, US 20040031058.

Re. Claim 5, Mehravari teaches the user installation of claim 4 and wide area network support.

Mehravari does not teach IEEE standard 802.16 or 802.20 for supporting WAN or wide-area network.

In an analogous art, Reisman teaches a transmission protocol referring to any form of "communication" or "transport", including connections to directly attached devices, local area networks (LANs), and wide area networks (WANs), which are adapted to IEEE 802.16 standard ([0085], lines 1-20).

Therefore, it would be obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify Mehravari with Reisman to include IEEE 802.16 standard, as taught by Reisman, for the benefit of providing WAN support so that all communication devices and connected networks would be compatible with each other.

Re. Claim 10, the user installation of claim 9, wherein said residential gateway and a set top box functionality are integrated within a single housing, Mehravari does not teach this limitation of integrating residential gateway and a set-top box within a single housing. The Examiner takes official notice in that it is notoriously known in the art as it is a standard practice in industry to integrate components in a single housing or enclosure for various design and economic reasons, and therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify Mehravari to include integrating residential gateway and a set-top box within a single housing, for the benefit of user having less space requirement and reducing installation time without having to connect each components by himself/herself.

Re. Claim 12, the user installation of claim 8, comprising master STB functionality for connecting a plurality of set top boxes, Mehravari does not teach a master STB functionality for connecting a plurality of set top boxes.

In an analogous art, Reisman teaches that limitation ([0276], lines 1-15; [0306], lines 1-19; from [0276] and [0306], it would be obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art that the new class of STBs are able to provide master STB functionality for connecting plurality of set-top boxes).

Therefore, it would be obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify Mehravari to include master STB functionality for connecting a plurality of set-top boxes, as taught by Reisman, for the benefit of users in a household so that each user would

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be able to control TV viewing with a simple version of a set-top box, which would result in less cost to a household for total number of set top boxes. .

Re. Claim 13, the user installation of claim 1, comprising residential gateway functionality with local area network (LAN) support for supporting a plurality of household communication enabled devices over a LAN, Mehravari teaches user installation of Claim 1 comprising residential gateway (Fig.4, access point 550; [0059], lines 7-9, access point 550 serving as access point or gateway for all wireless communication devices 230).

Mehravari does not teach residential gateway functionality with local area network (LAN) support.

In an analogous art, Reisman teaches residential gateway functionality with local area network (LAN) support ([0149], lines 1-4).

Therefore, it would be obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify Mehravari to include local area network support, as taught by Reisman, for the benefit of household users so that each user individually could share all available resources and devices.

Re. Claim 14, the user installation of claim 13, wherein said LAN support comprises Ethernet support, Mehravari teaches LAN support with Ethernet ([0030], lines 3-7).

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Re. Claim 15, the user installation of claim 13, wherein said LAN support is over a co-ax cable, Mehravari does not teach LAN support with co-ax cable.

In an analogous art, Reisman teaches that ([0085], lines 4-6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify Mehravari to include LAN support with existing co-ax cable, as taught by Reisman, for the benefit of users of having less cost for LAN installation.

Re. Claim 16, the user installation of claim 13, wherein said LAN support comprises wireless network support, Mehravari does not teach LAN support with wireless network.

In an analogous art, Reisman teaches that limitation ([0304], lines 6-8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify Mehravari to include LAN support with wireless network, as taught by Reisman, for the benefit of users to install LAN faster by avoiding the cumbersome process of connecting each nodes of the LAN network by coaxial cable.


CONTACT

5. Any enquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Amit Ray whose telephone number is 571-272-6339. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, alternate Friday off, 7:30 AM –5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

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supervisor, Chris Grant can be reached on 571-272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Statute information for published applications may be obtained from either PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pairedirect.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on accessing the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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